Losses suffered by tourists offices abroad

†736. SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 3774 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 30th April, 2002 and state:

(a) whether Government have suffered huge losses due to tourist offices abroad during the last three years, if so, the year-wise details thereof;

(b) the persons responsible for these huge losses and the action Government would like to initiate against them; and

(c) the steps Government would like to take to activate the tourism and make effective the same in foreign countries?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Government has embarked on an aggressive plan to promote Indian tourism products in the major tourism generating markets overseas. The plan focuses on reassurance campaign, advertising through print and electronic media, participation in fairs & exhibitions, organising workshops & seminars, web marketing dissemination of information through brochures, CD Roms, etc.

New areas for development and promotion of tourism

737. DR. ABRAR AHMED: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a sharp decline in foreign tourist arrivals and foreign exchange earnings through tourism in the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government propose to identify new areas for development and promotion of tourism to attract foreign tourists?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) and (b) There has been a decline of 14.5 per cent and 12.8 per cent in

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

the foreign tourist arrivals and foreign exchange earnings respectively during the period January to September 2002 as compared to the same period of previous year. However there has been a growth of 16.8 per cent in estimated foreign tourist arrivals and 24.4 per cent in foreign exchange earnings in October 2002 as compared to October 2001.

(c) Department of Tourism, Government of India has proposed to introduce following new schemes for the year 2002-03 for development and promotion of tourism:

(i) Integrated Development of Tourist Circuits.
(ii) Product/Infrastructure and Destination Development.
(iii) Assistance for Large Revenue Generating Projects.
(iv) Capacity Building for Service Providers.

Maintenance of enlisted monuments

738. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in the Hindu, Delhi dated the 8th October, 2002 captioned "Under ASI regime monuments go missing";

(b) if so, the number of monuments which are enlisted in ASI records but missing across the country at present; and

(c) the steps taken by Government for tracing out the enlisted monuments and for their proper maintenance?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Information is being collected and would be placed at the table of the House.

Development of tourism sector in U.P.

739. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Uttar Pradesh has sent any proposal to Government for promotion and development of tourism sector in Uttar Pradesh;